

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 641)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 6x + 23 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-6) \pm \sqrt{(-6)^2 - 4(1)(23)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-6) \pm \sqrt{36 - 92}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{-56}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{-4 \cdot 14}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{6 \pm 2\sqrt{14}i}{2}$$

$$x = 3 \pm \sqrt{14}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $6 + 3i$ and $5 - 9i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(6 + 3i) \cdot (5 - 9i)$$

$$30 - 54i + 15i - 27i^2$$

$$30 - 54i + 15i + 27$$

$$30 + 27 - 54i + 15i$$

$$57 - 39i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 21x + 18$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 3)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 2 & -21 & 18 \\ 3 & & 3 & 15 & -18 \\ \hline & 1 & 5 & -6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 3)(x^2 + 5x - 6)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 3)(x + 6)(x - 1)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 8)^2 \cdot (x + 4)^2 \cdot (x - 1) \cdot (x - 4)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

